



**IN THE UNITED STATES  
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANT: Albert K. Chin  
APPLICATION NO.: 09/635,345  
FILING DATE: August 9, 2000  
TITLE: Apparatus and Methods for Subxiphoid Endoscopic Access  
EXAMINER: Thomas C. Barrett  
GROUP ART UNIT: 3738  
ATTY. DKT. NO.: 80121-07179

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on the date shown below:

Dated: 11/11/04 By: A.C. Smith  
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**AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION**  
**UNDER 37 CFR §1.114**

Sir:

Responsive to the final action dated June 16, 2004 and to the Advisory Action dated October 13, 2004 received in the patent application identified above, applicant requests continued examination of the claims in the subject application as set forth herein.